

Application No.: 10/781,203
Amendment Dated: June 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action of: March 25, 2005

MAT-8507US

Remarks/Arguments:

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Katagiri et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,815,089). Claims 2-53, however, were indicated as being allowable if rewritten into independent form. Accordingly, claim 1 has been cancelled, and the features of claim 1 have been incorporated into claims 2, 15, 28 and 41.

In view of the amendments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

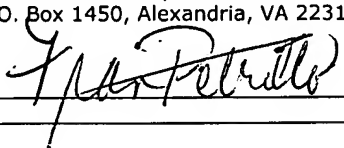
LEA/fp

Dated: June 1, 2005

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

June 1, 2005 

FP_I:\MAT\8507US\AMEND_01.DOC